United Nations A/C.2/57/L.26

General Assembly

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Fifty-seventh session
Second Committee
Agenda item 88
Operational activities for development

Venezuela:* draft resolution

Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries

The General Assembly,

Stressing that South-South cooperation, as an important element of international cooperation for development, offers viable opportunities for developing countries in their individual and collective pursuit of sustained economic growth and sustainable development,

Recognizing that developing countries have the primary responsibility for promoting and implementing South-South cooperation, not as a substitute for but rather as a complement to North-South cooperation, and in this context, reiterating the need for the international community to support the efforts of the developing countries to expand South-South cooperation,

Taking note of the Ministerial Declaration[1] adopted by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the States members of the Group of 77 at their Twenty-sixth Annual Meeting, held in New York on 19 September 2002, in which the increased importance and relevance of South-South cooperation was re-emphasized,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on measures to promote and facilitate South-South cooperation;[2]

2. *Notes with satisfaction* that developing countries have succeeded in setting elaborate action plans for South-South cooperation, and urges developing countries and their partners to intensify South-South and triangular initiatives contributing to the achievement of the millennium development goals;[3]

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] See A/57/444, annex.

[2] A/55/155.

[3] See General Assembly resolution 55/2.

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3. *Encourages* developing countries to strengthen their national coordination mechanisms in order to improve the effectiveness of South-South and triangular cooperation, and in this connection also encourages other bilateral and multilateral development partners to do the same, as appropriate;

4. *Reiterates* the urgent need to help strengthen institutions and centres of excellence in the South, especially at the regional and interregional levels, with a view to making more effective use of such entities towards improved South-South knowledge-sharing, networking, capacity-building, information exchange, policy analysis and coordinated action among developing countries on major issues of common concern;

5. *Recommends* that the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries should in the future review all aspects of South-South cooperation;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General, through coordination of the Special Unit for Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries of the United Nations Development Programme, and in consultation with Member States and relevant organizations and agencies, to carry out a comprehensive study with a view to examining the organization of the programme and the means of implementation of the proposed international decade for South-South cooperation and the United Nations Day on South-South cooperation, and to submit the findings and recommendations to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session, through the Economic and Social Council;

7. *Reiterates* the emphasis in the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development[4] on the need for multilateral and bilateral financial and development institutions to intensify efforts, inter alia, to strengthen South-South and triangular cooperation as delivery tools of assistance to developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

8. *Recalls* decision 2002/18 of 27 September 2002, taken by the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Population Fund, in which the Board decided to allocate a fixed annual amount of $3.5 million to the Special Unit for Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, and calls upon all relevant United Nations organizations and multilateral institutions to intensify efforts to effectively mainstream the use of South-South cooperation in the design, formulation and implementation of their regular programmes, and to consider increasing allocations of human, technical and financial resources for South-South cooperation;

9. *Recognizes* the need to mobilize additional resources for enhancing South-South activities, and in this context invites donor countries, as well as developing countries in a position to do so, to contribute generously in support of such cooperation through, inter alia, the Perez-Guerrero Trust Fund for Economic and Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries and the Voluntary Trust Fund for the Promotion of South-South Cooperation, and decides to include the latter in the United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Special Unit for Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries and other relevant

[4] A/CONF.198/11

organizations and agencies, to include in the agenda of the thirteenth session of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, a special segment to commemorate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the adoption of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries.

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Operational activities for development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/201 of 21 December 2001 on the triennial policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system,

Recalling also its resolution 49/123 of 19 December 1994 on the United Nations Development Programme and the *Human Development Report*,

Reaffirming decisions 94/15[1] of 10 June 1994 and 95/24[2] of 16 June 1995 of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Population Fund on the *Human Development Report*,

Recognizing that the United Nations Development Programme funds, publishes, launches, promotes and disseminates internationally the *Human Development Report*,

Acknowledging that the *Human Development Report* is an important tool for raising awareness about human development around the world,

1. *Recognizes* that the *Human Development Report* does not reflect the views of the United Nations nor its Members, and reaffirms that it should be the result of an independent intellectual exercise and that the policies governing the operational activities for development of the United Nations system will continue to be set by Member States;

2. *Welcomes* decision 2002/18 of 27 September 2002 taken by the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Population Fund on programming arrangements for the period 2004-2007, through

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1994, Supplement No. 15* (E/1994/35/Rev.1).

[2] See ibid., *1995, Supplement No. 14* (E/1995/34).

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which a fixed annual amount of regular resources was allocated to finance the Human Development Report Office, and stresses that such resources should ensure the quality and independent nature of the *Human Development Report* process;

3. *Reaffirms* decision 94/15[1] of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Population Fund by which the Board welcomed the decision of the Administrator to improve the process of consultation with Member States and other relevant international bodies to refine the methodologies used in the report with a view to improving its quality and accuracy without compromising its editorial independence;

4. *Reaffirms also* that the preparation of the *Human Development Report* should be undertaken in a neutral and transparent manner and in full and effective consultation with Member States while respecting the editorial and intellectual independence of the report as well as the impartial nature of sources used in its preparation;

5. *Calls upon* the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Population Fund to take appropriate measures to make operational the above paragraphs and include in its annual work plan an agenda item related to the Human Development Report Office with a view to strengthening consultations with Member States regarding the *Human Development Report* and to ensure the full implementation of the present resolution;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a report on the implementation of the present resolution and to submit it, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session.